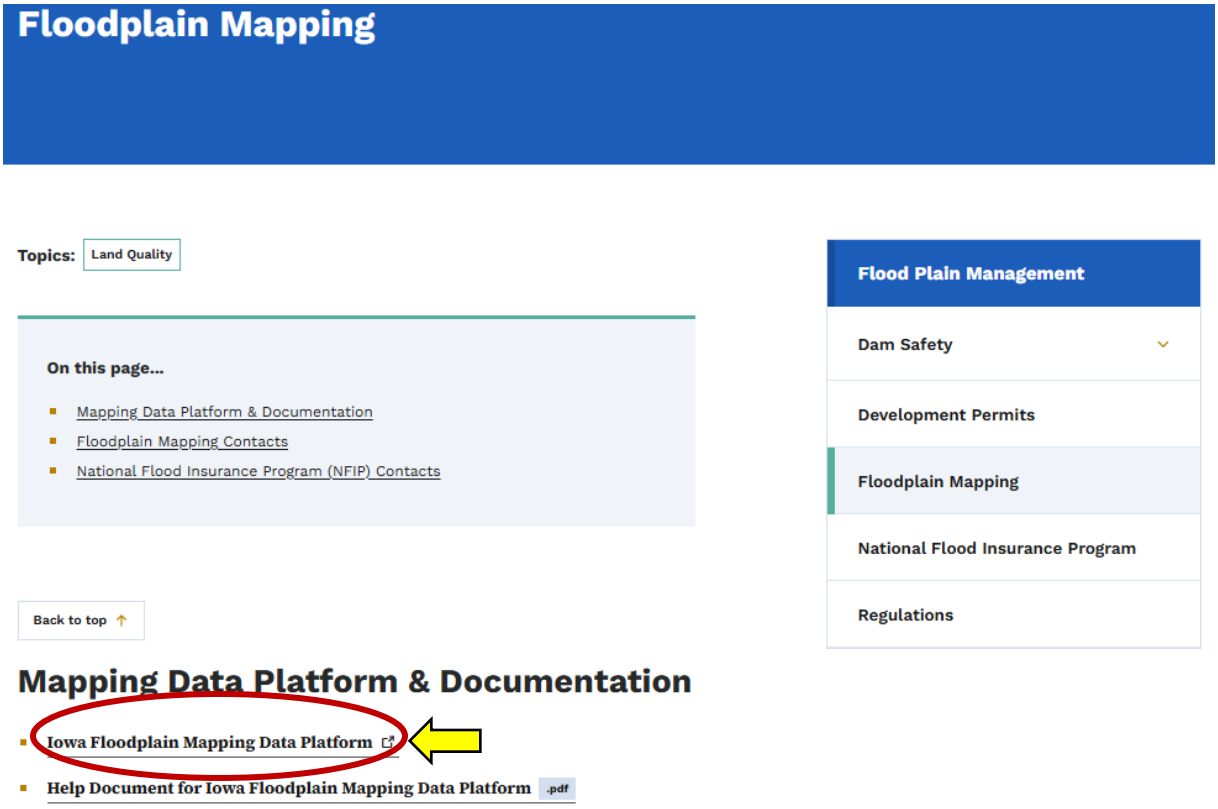
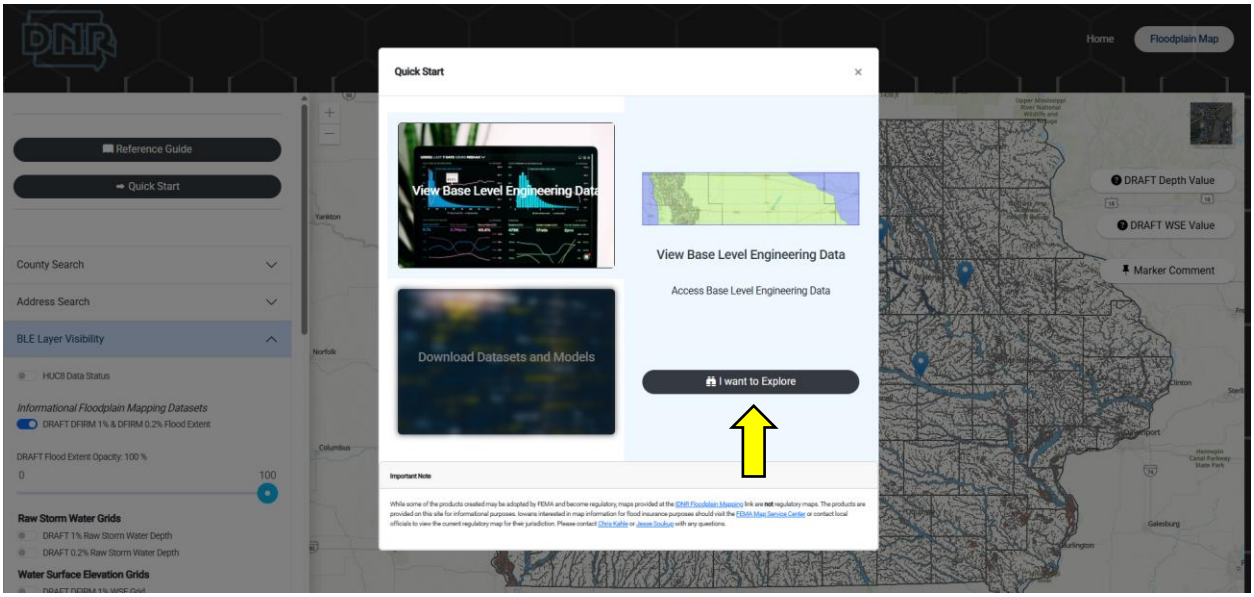
Navigating the Iowa DNR's Floodplain Viewer

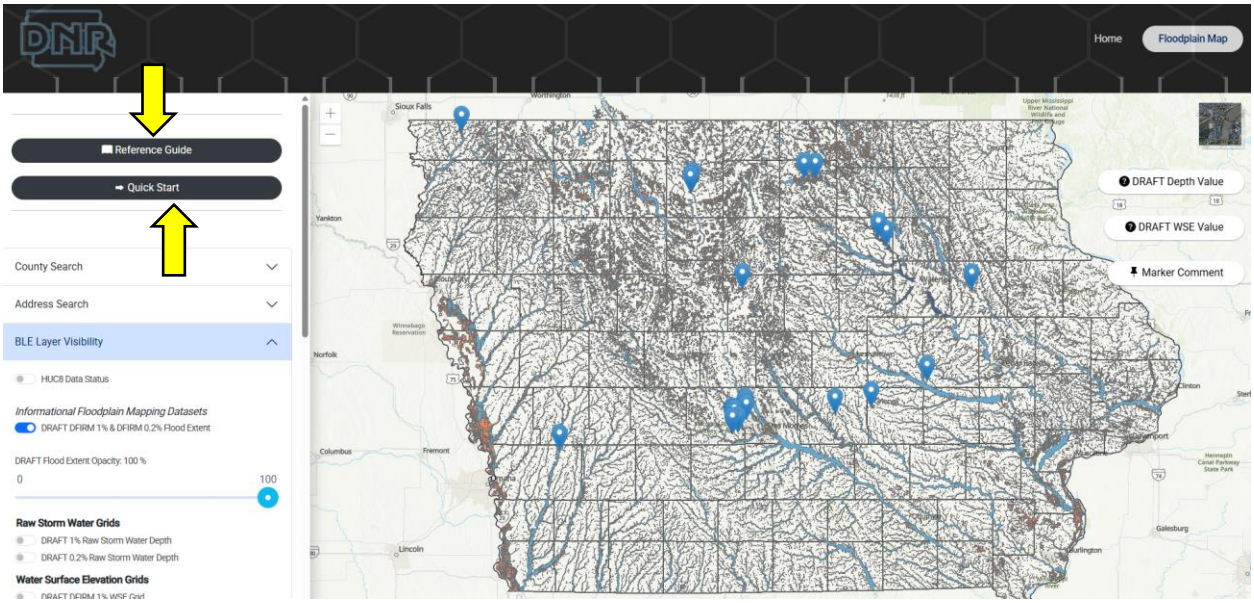
Navigate to the Iowa DNR's 2D BLE floodplain maps website at https://www.iowadnr.gov/floodplainmap. Click on the link labeled "Iowa Floodplain Mapping Data Platform" to open the viewer.



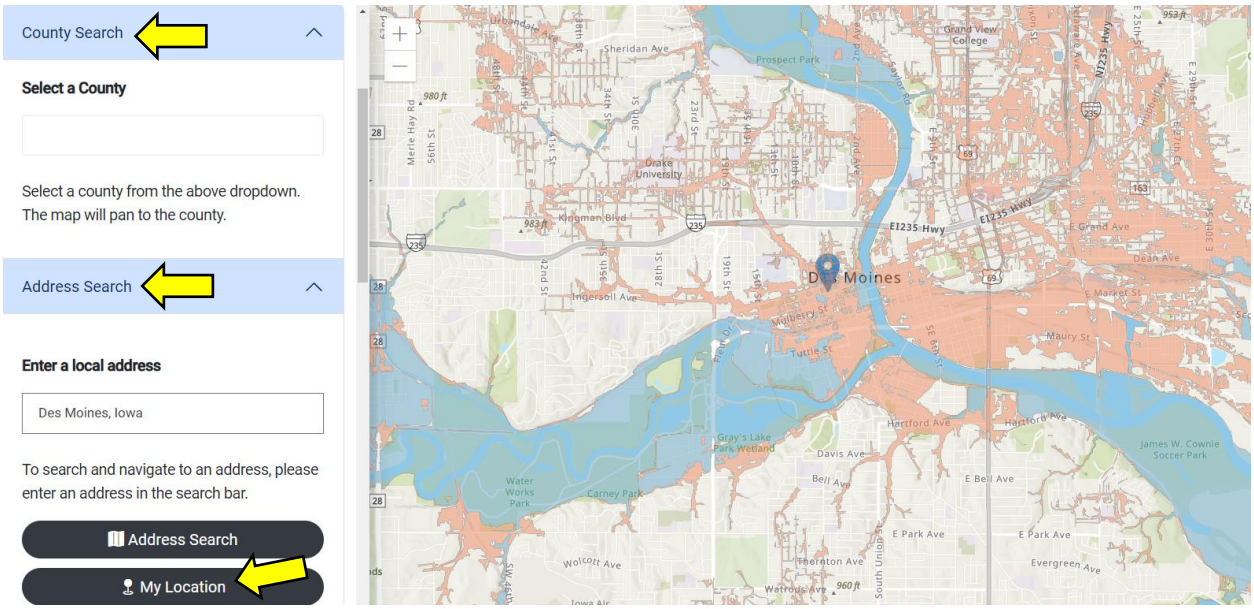
Click I want to Explore to view the mapped floodplains.



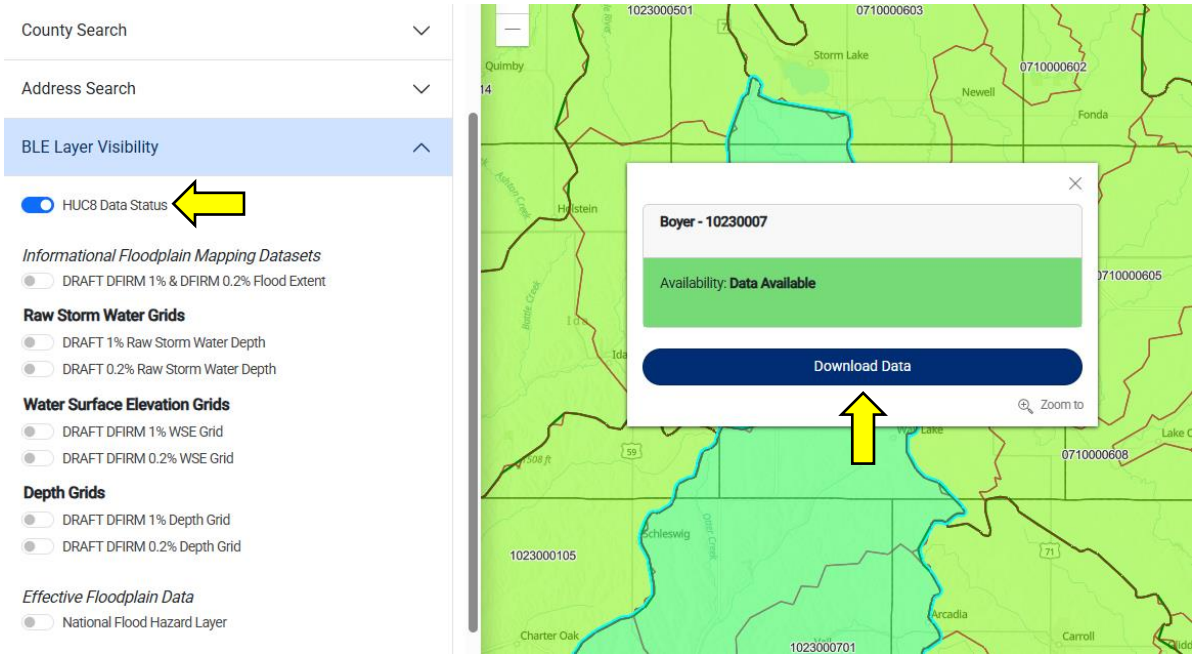
The Reference Guide explains the naming convention for downloadable models and details the data sets shown in the viewer. Quick Start takes you back to the startup page (shown above) where you have the option to view the maps or download data.



County Search allows you to zoom to a county via a drop-down list. Address Search allows you to navigate to a specific address or click on My Location and it will zoom to where you are.



There are two ways to download data. The first is through the startup page mentioned earlier by clicking “Download Datasets and Models”. The second is to toggle on HUC8 Data Status to see where data is available for download. Click the area you wish to download data from and the Download Data button will appear.



Click the Download Data button and a list of all downloadable files for that HUC8 will appear. Use the Reference Guide mentioned earlier to better understand the datasets available. Models are available by HUC10 and correspond with the numbers shown on the map. All other datasets are packaged by HUC8. Click anywhere outside the pop-up to close the window.

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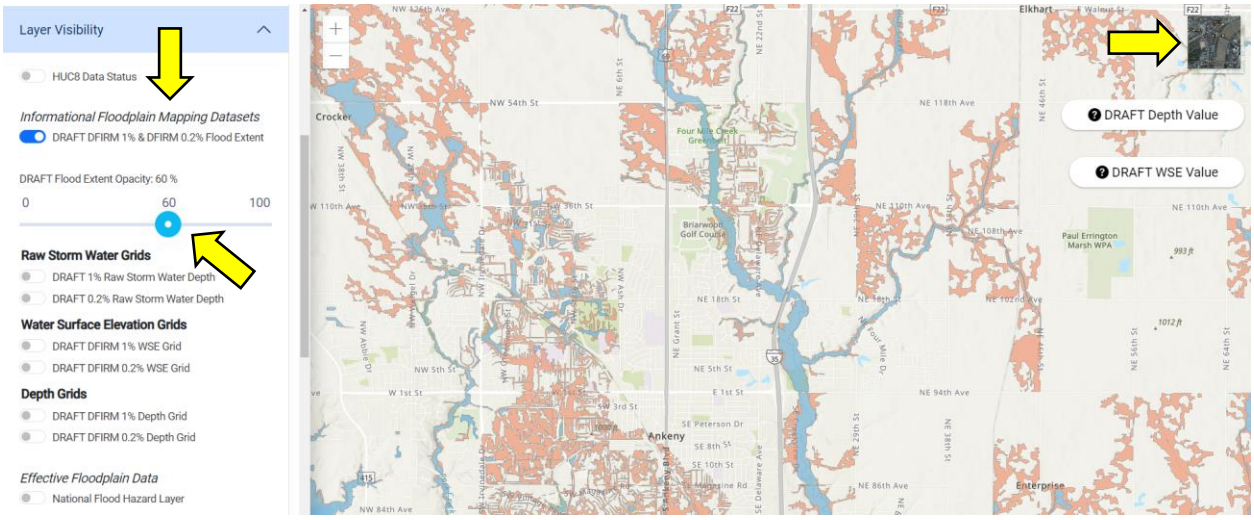
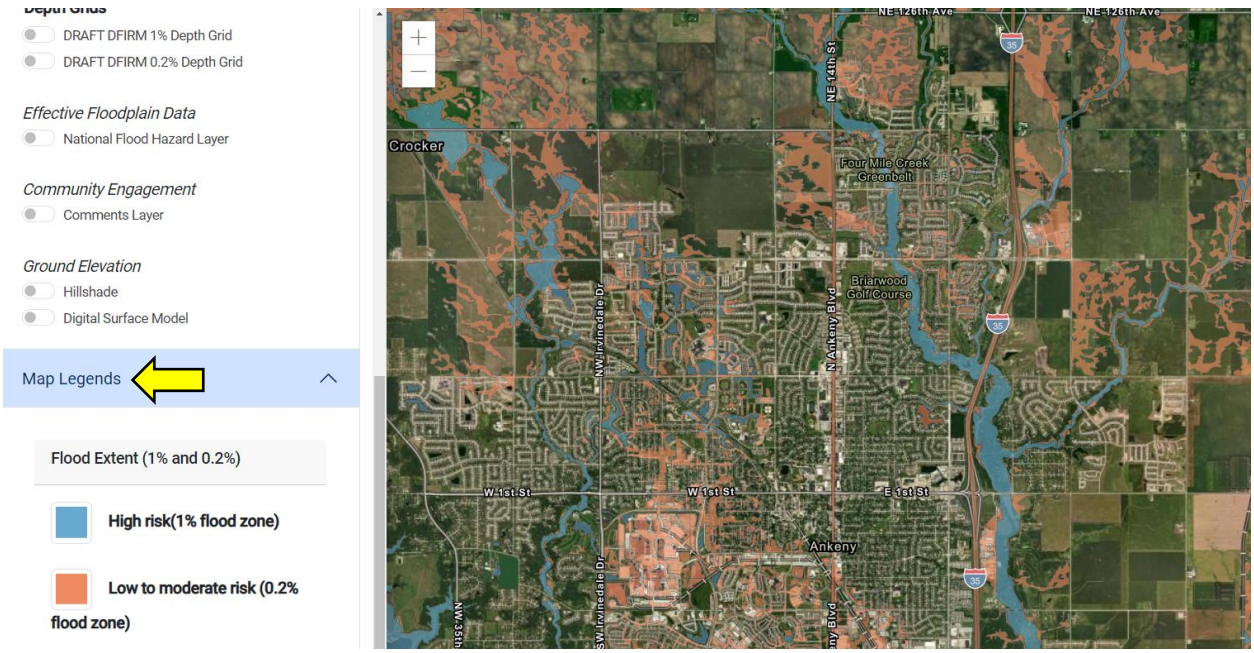
Datasets and Models	File Name	Download Link
Reference Guide		Download Reference Guide
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000701_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000702A_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000702B_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000703A_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000703B_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000704_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000706A_20240731.zip	Download File
HEC-RAS model or Figure	P02_1023000706B_20240731.zip	Download File
Floodplain GDB	P01_10230007_20240730.gdb.zip	Download File

Toggle on DRAFT DFIRM 1% & DFIRM 0.2% Flood Extent to view the draft 100-year (1% annual chance) and draft 500-year (0.2% annual chance) flood maps. The opacity slider beneath the toggle button allows you to modify the transparency of the flood extents. Click the basemap icon on the top right to change the view to an aerial photo of the area.

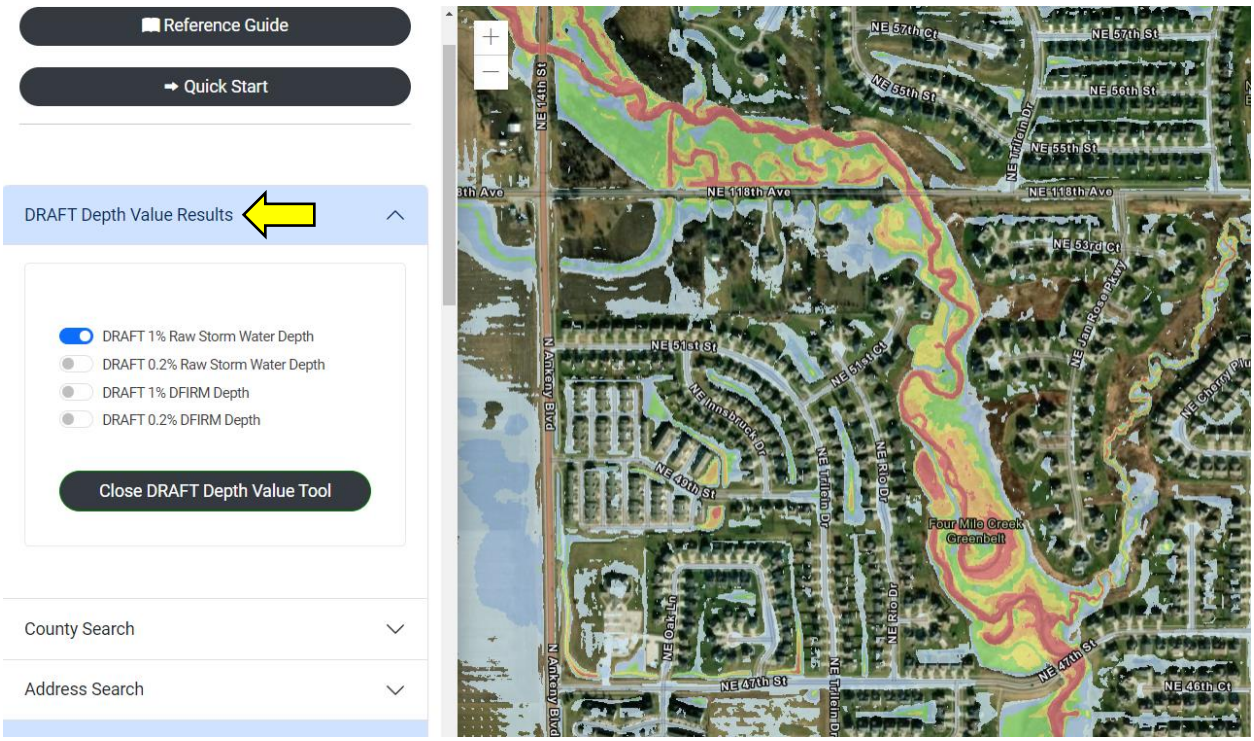


When you toggle on a layer, the legend for that layer will show up at the bottom of the left side under Map Legends.

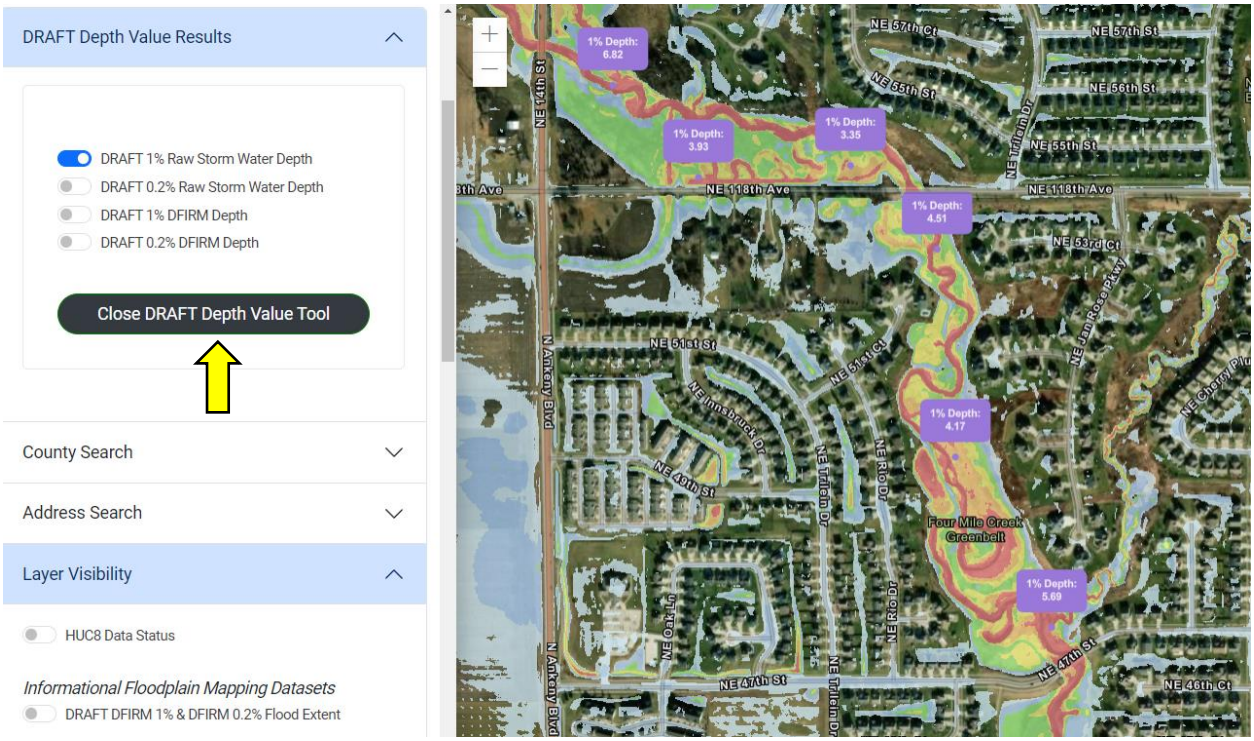


Toggle on the DRAFT 1% Raw Storm Water Depth or DRAFT 0.2% Raw Storm Water Depth to view the Storm Water Depth Grids. The legend for these layers will appear at the bottom left. To obtain a depth value for a point on the map, click the DRAFT Depth Value button on the right side.

When you click on DRAFT Depth Value, the DRAFT Depth Value Results dropdown will appear above County Search on the left side. Click on it to expand.



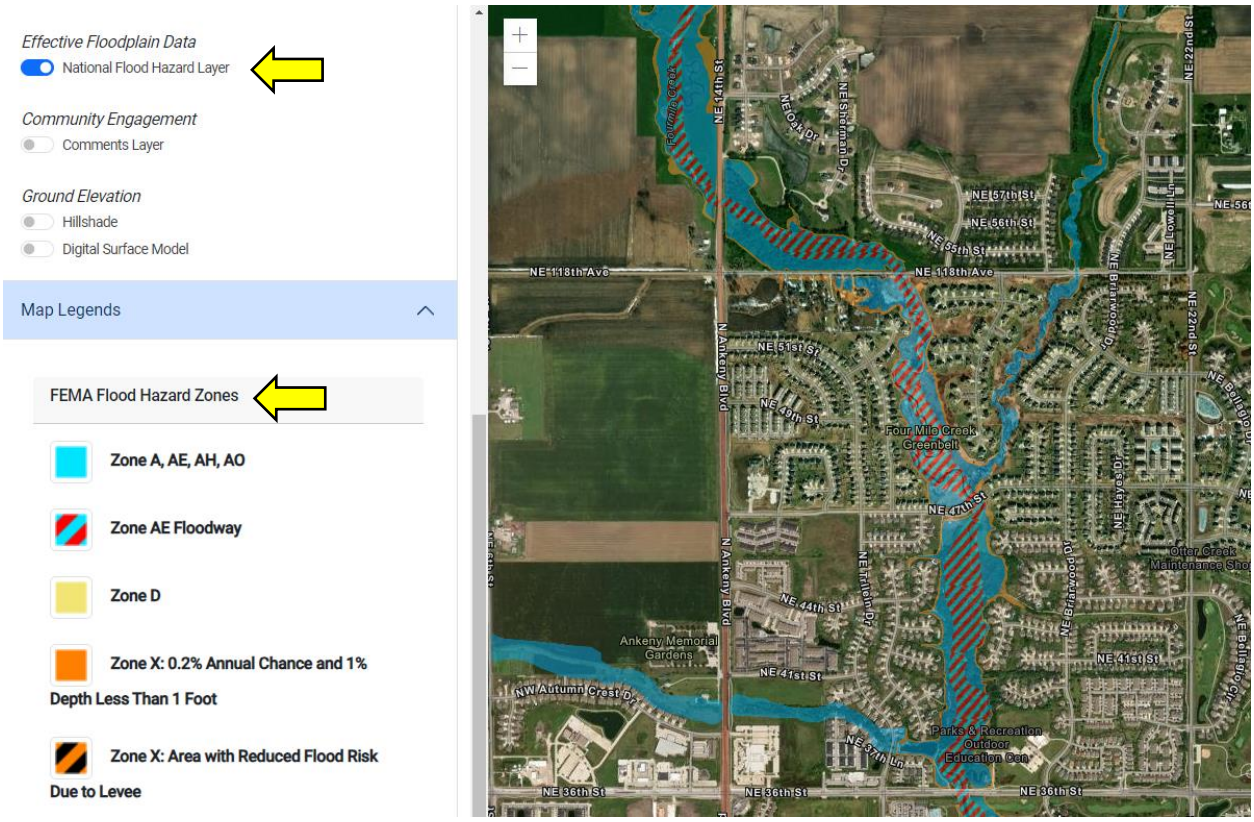
Using the cross hairs, click on the Raw Storm Water Depth Grid to obtain a depth value. A point will appear indicating where the click occurred with a value bubble above. A maximum of six value points are able to appear simultaneously. Use the Close DRAFT Depth Value Tool button to close the results window and bring back the buttons to the right.



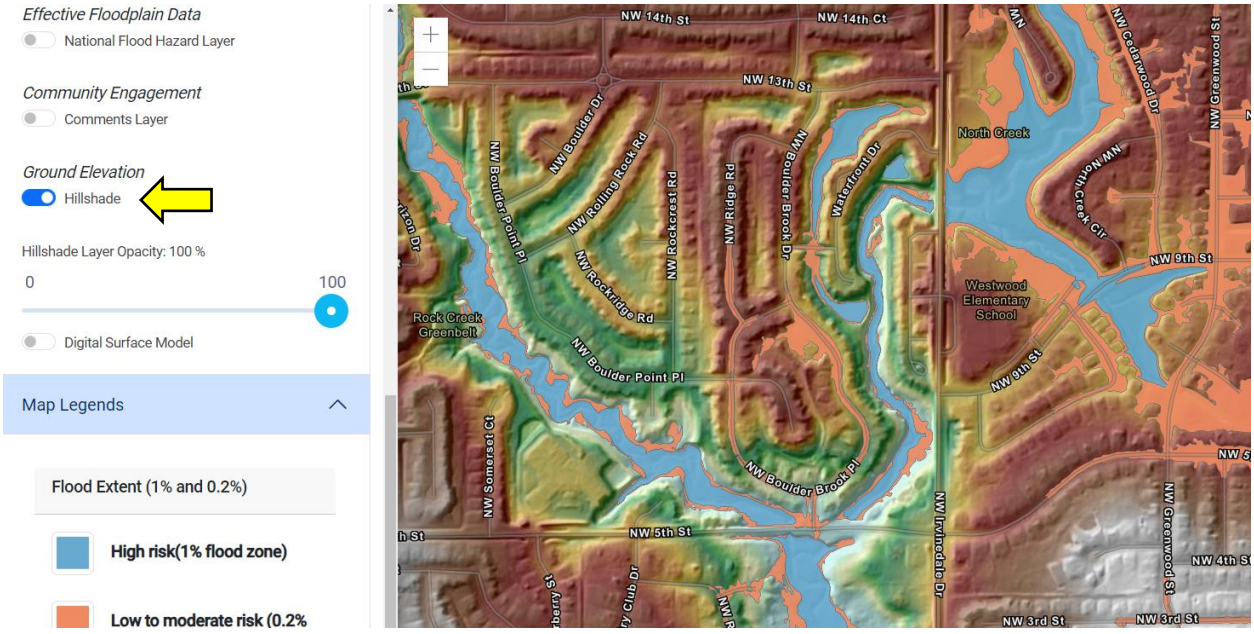
Toggle on the DRAFT DFIRM 1% WSE Grid or DRAFT DFIRM 0.2% WSE Grid to view the Water Surface Elevation Grids. To obtain a water surface elevation for a point on the map, follow the same steps used to find a depth value shown above. Note: Values for the WSE grid are elevation values and NOT depth values.

Toggle on the DRAFT DFIRM 1% Depth Grid or DRAFT DFIRM 0.2% Depth Grid to view the Draft DFIRM Depth Grids. These depth grids only show depth for areas that have 1% or 0.2% annual chance floodplains. The legend for these layers will appear at the bottom left.

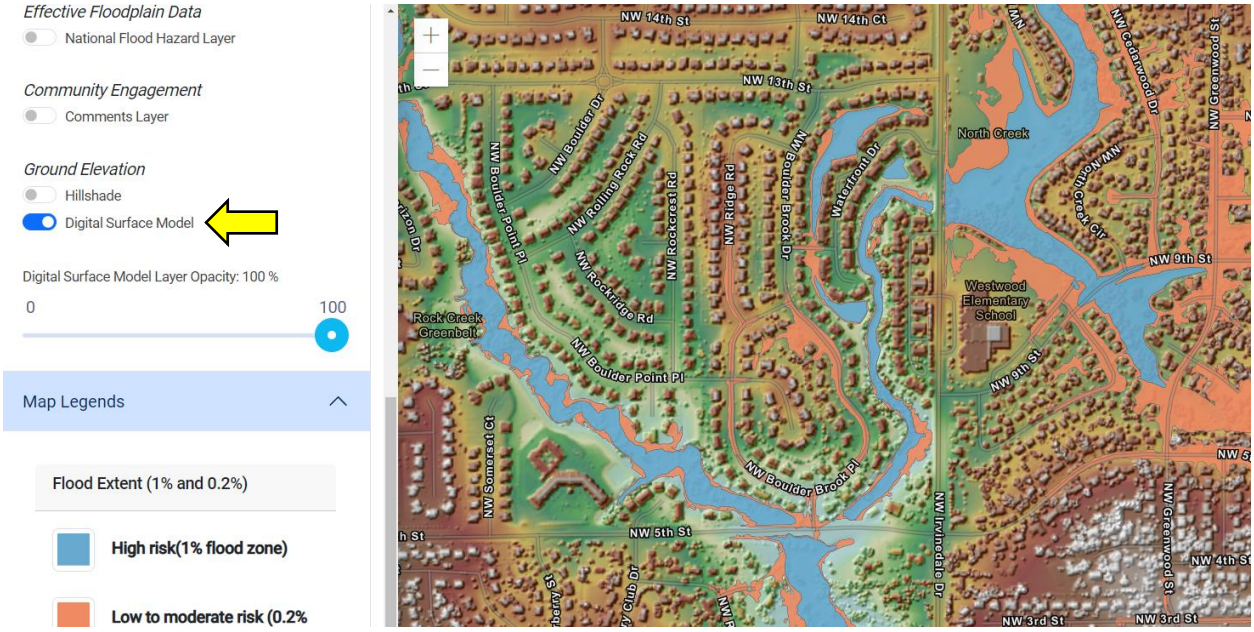
Toggle on the National Flood Hazard Layer to view the current effective floodplain data. The legend for the National Flood Hazard Layer will appear on the bottom left.



Toggle the Hillshade button on to view the terrain of the area under the layers.

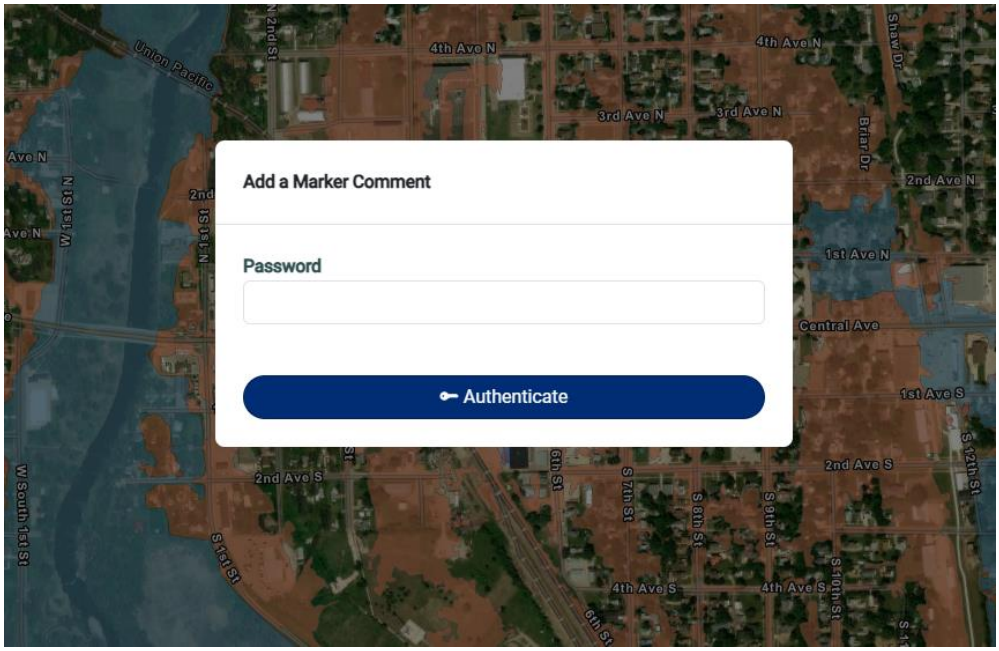


The Digital Surface Model is similar to the Hillshade however it also includes structures and trees.



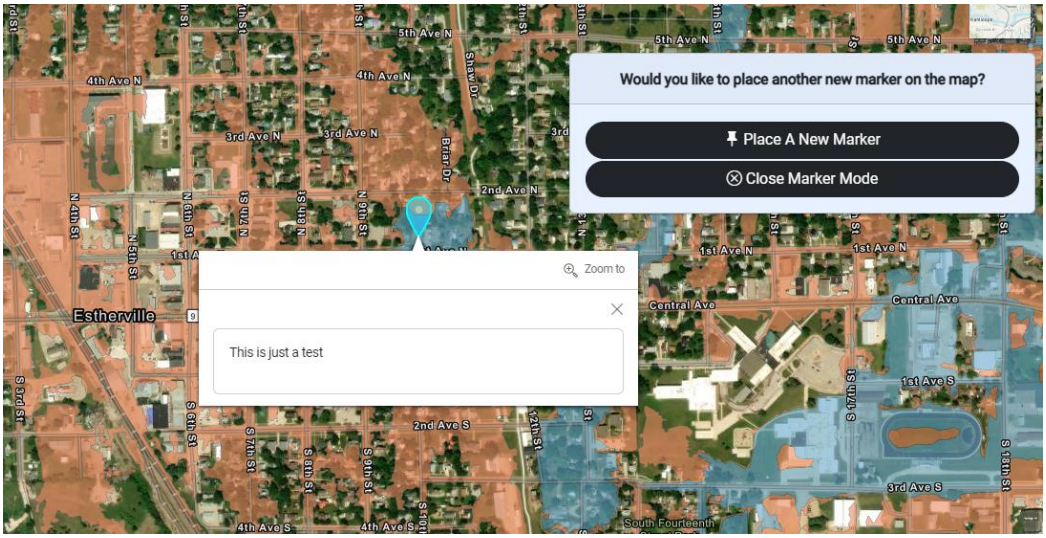
If you would like to make a comment after viewing the maps, you can do so by turning on the Comments Layer and clicking the Marker Comment button to the right.

When you click the Marker Comment button, a pop-up window will appear prompting you for a password. To obtain a password to create comments, please email Jesse.soukup@dnr.iowa.gov.



After you enter the password, a Marker Details window will appear. Here you can fill out information about yourself along with any comments you might have about the maps. Please be as detailed as possible when leaving comments. Using the toggle buttons at the bottom, you may also request a one-on-one meeting to discuss your comments or provide data to help improve the maps. City officials may also express interest in refining the maps for their area.

After filling out the form, click Place marker on map. Next, click the point on the map that corresponds with your comment. You will then have the option of placing another marker or, if you are done, you can close marker mode.



For questions about the floodplain mapping viewer, please contact Jesse Soukup at Jesse.soukup@dnr.iowa.gov or Chris Kahle at Chris.Kahle@dnr.iowa.gov